US Application No. 09/553,223

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Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O.

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MAR 0 1 2004

Patent 14380-0034

**PATENT** 

Applicant: Gregory B. Williams

Serial No.: 09/553,223

Filed: 04/20/2000

Title: A COMBINED RAPID

SUSCEPTIBILITY ASSAY AND MICROORGANISM IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM

EXAMINER: P. WEBER

Group Art Unit: 1651

Atty Docket No.: Dade 14380-34 (formerly

14598-34)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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MAR 0 8 2004

## AMENDMENT AND REMARKS

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed August 26, 2003, Applicant responds as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.

Responsive to the Office Action mailed August 26, 2003, Applicants responds as follows.

This is a continuing application under 37 CFR 1.114. Claims 43-60 originally were presented for examination and claims 53-59 were withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. Claims 43-53 and 60 are pending in the present application. All pending claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph for lack of enablement. Additionally, claim 51 has been objected to for an informal misspelling. No claims are allowed. This Action is not final.

## **Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## **Listing of Claims:**

Please amend Claims 43, 51, and 60 to read as follows:

- 1-42. (cancelled)
- 43. (currently Amended) A method for the rapid determination of a microorganism's identity and susceptibility to an antimicrobial agent comprising: preparing a sample to be tested;

inoculating a hybrid panel having a plurality of wells with said sample, wherein said hybrid panel comprises a modified clear plastic microtiter plate having wells, said wells having clear bottoms and clear side walls for rapidly determining said microorganism's identity using fluorescence in parallel with wells for rapidly determining said microorganism's susceptibility to at least one antimicrobial agent;

placing said inoculated hybrid panel into a device that maintains said inoculated hybrid panels at a predetermined temperature for a predetermined time;

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EEE TO A NOMITTAL	Complete if Known				
FEE TRANSMITTAL	Application Number	09/553,223	RECEIVED		
for FY 2004	Filing Date	04/20/2000			
	First Named Inventor	Gregory B. Willia	MAR 0 8 2004		
Effective 10/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.	Examiner Name	P. Weber	WAR () 8 2004		
Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27	Art Unit	1651			

TOTAL A	MOUNT OF PA	YMENT	(\$) 950	[	Attorn	ey Do	cket N	lo.	14380-34 (formerly 1	14598-34)	
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**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above			*Red	uced by	Basic F	Filing Fe	ee Paid	SUBTOTAL (3)	(\$) 950		

(Complete (if applicable)) SUBMITTED BY Registration No. 39,645 Telephone 949-725-4154 Name (Print/Type) Louis/ February 25, 2004 Signature

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**FORM** First Named Inventor Gregory B. Williams Art Unit 1651 (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) **Examiner Name** P. Weber MAR 0 8 2004 Attorney Docket Number 13 14380-34 Tรณ์ Number of Pages in This Submission

		ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)			
V	Fee Transmittal Form	Drawing(s)  After Allowance communication to Group			
	Fee Attached  Amendment/Reply  After Final  Affidavits/declaration(s)  Extension of Time Request  Express Abandonment Request  Information Disclosure Statement	Licensing-related Papers  Petition Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address Terminal Disclaimer Request for Refund  CD, Number of CD(s)  Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Proprietary Information Status Letter Other Enclosure(s) (please Identify below):			
	Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)  Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application  Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	Remarks			
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT					
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Date 2/25/04					
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Typed	or printed name Shauna Murr	ay			
Signat	ture Shar	wmun Date 2/25/04			

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